

FTA Section 5310 Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities Federal Fiscal Years 2013 & 2014

PROGRAM FACT SHEET AND TIMELINE

Program Purpose: Provide capital and operating grants for projects that meet the transportation needs of seniors and individuals with disabilities: where public mass transportation services are otherwise unavailable, insufficient or inappropriate; that exceed the requirements of the ADA; that improve access to fixed-route service; that provide alternatives to public transportation.

New Program: On June 6, 2014, the FTA C 9070.1G circular was finalized, incorporating the project types of the repealed New Freedom program into the Section 5310 Program. The 5310 vehicle projects and related equipment are now called Traditional 5310 projects and comprise 55% of the available funding; the former New Freedom projects are called Expanded 5310 Projects and comprise 45% of available funding.

Funds Available

- * Approximately \$13 million in Federal funds are available for these combined cycles;
- * 100 % in federal funds upon FTA approval of Transportation Development Credits.

Eligible Applicants:

- * Private non-profit corporations (Traditional and Expanded);
- * Public agencies where no private non-profits are readily available to provide the proposed service (Traditional projects);
- * Public agencies that have been approved by the State to coordinate services (Traditional projects);
- * Public agencies (Expanded projects);
- * An Operator of Public Transportation that receives a Section 5310 grant indirectly through a recipient (Expanded projects).

Eligible Equipment:

- * Accessible vans and buses;
- * Mobile radios and communication equipment;
- * Computer hardware and software

Vehicle Replacement Eligibility: Vehicle(s) must be in active service. Active service is defined as a vehicle providing service throughout the agency's

normal days and hours of operation. A replacement bus(s) or van must meet or exceed useful life at the time of application.

Service Expansion Eligibility: Applicants must be able to document that the proposed transportation service will provide:

- * Services to additional persons; or
- * Expand the service area or hours; or
- * Increase the number and/or frequency of trips.

Eligible Mobility Management Activities:

Include, but are not limited to:

- * Planning, development, implementation of coordinated transportation services;
- * Travel training/trip planning.

Eligible Operating Activities: Include, but are not limited to:

- * Expansion of hours/service of paratransit service beyond the requirements of ADA;
- * Enhancement of services (same day; etc.)
- * New or expansion of Volunteer Driver Programs.

Funding Selection Process:

1. The Regional Transportation Planning Agency (RTPA) scores the applications using established evaluation criteria and completes a prioritized list for their region.
2. The State Review Committee reviews the RTPA scores, and scores a statewide-prioritized list of projects based on available funding.
3. The California Transportation Commission (CTC) holds a public hearing to review and adopt the final list of projects.
4. Caltrans submits approved projects to the FTA.

Program Requirements: Once approved by FTA, successful applicants enter into a Standard Agreement with Caltrans. The agreement remains in effect until the project's useful life; or for mobility management or operating projects, the Standard Agreement duration. Grantees are responsible for the proper use, operating costs, and maintenance of all project equipment. Grantees must be prepared to comply with the requirements of Caltrans, the Department of Motor Vehicle and the regulations of the California Highway Patrol.

PROGRAM NOTE:

FTA Section 5310 vehicles are purchased by Caltrans using a State procurement process. Upon Caltrans approval, public agencies may follow their own local procurement process. However, the grantee must comply with state and federal procurement procedures when purchasing with local funds. Upon project completion, the grantee requests reimbursement from Caltrans for the Federal Share.

5310 PROGRAM TIMELINE

October 1, 2014 - Call for Projects
- Begin Schedule for Public Hearings (Public Transit Only)

Oct. 28 – Nov. 5, 2014 - Grant Application Workshops

December 1, 2014 - Regional applications due to RTPA by 5:00 p.m. December 1, 2014. RTPA scores applications and conducts appropriate public hearings.

February 2, 2015 - RTPA forwards (electronically) regional prioritized list with scores and copies of applications with approved Certification and Assurances to Caltrans by 5:00 p.m. February 2, 2015.

March, 2015 - Regional scores are merged into a statewide-prioritized list of projects.
- State Review Committee reviews and verifies scores submitted by the RTPAs.

June 2015 - Submit draft list to CTC for book item at the upcoming CTC meeting
- CTC distributes public draft Program of Projects (POP)
- CTC conducts staff level conference for the review committee to hear any filed appeals
- CTC conducts public hearing to adopt final POP
- Final POP distributed publicly
- Projects are programmed in the FTIP (immediately)

November 2015 - Schedule Successful Applicant Workshops, verify new agency information
- After verification that all projects have been programmed, approved POP submitted to FTA for funding approval
- After FTA's final approval, Standard Agreement process initiated
- Procurement process begins.

February 2016 - Write Standard Agreements

*For additional information call our toll free number (1.888.472.6816) or visit our website at:
<http://www.dot.ca.gov/hq/MassTrans/5310.html>*